

N91-27040



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Ames Research Center



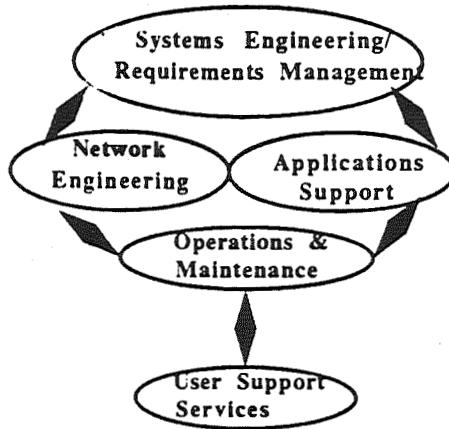
NASA Science Internet

What is the NASA Science Internet?

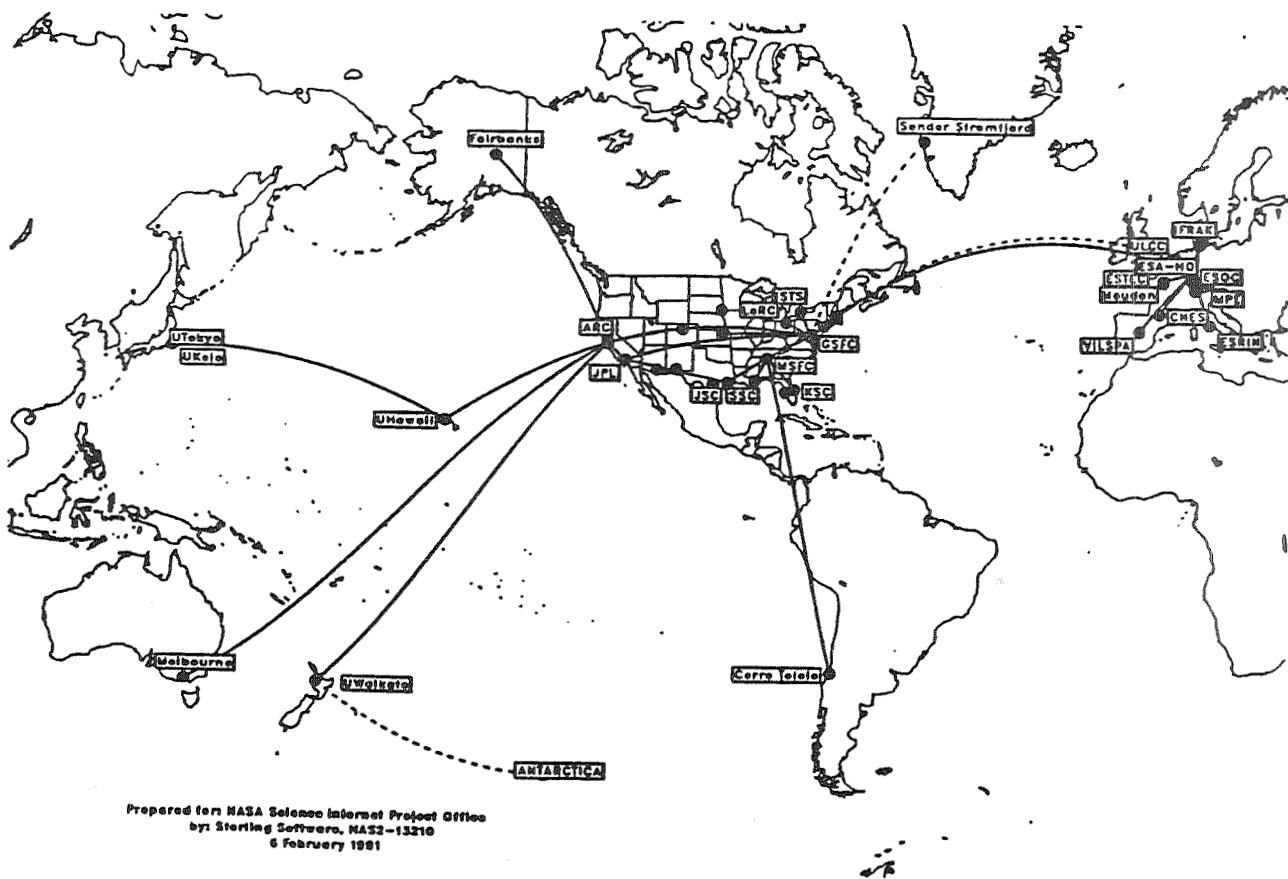
The NASA Science Internet, NSI, was established in 1987 to provide NASA's Office of Space Science and Applications (OSSA) missions with transparent wide-area data connectivity to NASA's researchers, computational resources, and databases.

The NSI Office at NASA/Ames Research Center has the lead responsibility for implementing a total, open networking program to serve the OSSA community. NSI is a full-service communications provider whose services include science network planning, network engineering, applications development, network operations, and network information center/user support services.

NSI Network Services



NASA Science Internet



What is NSI's Mission?

NSI's mission is to provide reliable high-speed communications to the NASA science community. To this end, the NSI Office manages and operates the NASA Science Internet, a multiprotocol network currently supporting both DECnet and TCP/IP protocols. NSI utilizes state-of-the-art network technology to meet its customers' requirements.

The NASA Science Internet interconnects with other national networks including the National Science Foundation's NSFNET, the Department of Energy's ESnet, and the Department of Defense's MILNET. NSI also has international connections to Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Chile, and several European countries.

NSI cooperates with other government agencies as well as academic and commercial organizations to implement networking technologies which foster interoperability, improve reliability and performance, increase security and control, and expedite migration to the OSI protocols.

NSI will be a major participant in the establishment of a high-speed National Research and Education Network (NREN).

Who does NSI support?

NSI supports the NASA Science community which consists of more than 12,000 Office of Space Science & Applications (OSSA) scientists, researchers, engineers, and administrators around the world.

NSI's circuits are provided primarily by PSCN. It also utilizes other national or international science networking providers.

NSI's personnel is noted worldwide for its networking expertise, and its highly modern operation and control center facilities assure leading-edge technology in network monitoring and problem control.

NSI provides an open, secure, shared network to assure the success of its users' missions by:

- supporting geographically distributed users
- accommodating advanced applications
- providing reliable and robust access to remote facilities
- integrating users into the overall network environment, and
- supporting high-performance access to the science community

What are NSI's Service Levels ?

NSI's basic service provides an open, secure, shared network to assure mission success. This service includes connectivity for file transfer, electronic mail, and remote logon. Basic service supports both TCP/IP and DECnet, and includes open connectivity within the United States as well as with international NASA collaborators. Basic Service is provided at no charge to authorized users by OSSA's Communications and Information Systems Division.

Custom service includes high-speed dedicated lines in addition to the basic services. Custom service requirements are engineered and costed on a case-by-case basis.

How do customers connect with NSI?

Customers contact the appropriate NSI Office Customer Service Representative (see back page for details) to describe their requirements. The NSI Office then obtains program authorization and relevant accounting information. When that is complete, NSI implements the required service and monitors performance.

Customer Service Representatives provide continual feedback on the status of the customer's request during this process. After implementation, the Network Information Center, located at the Goddard Space Flight Center, will provide information about all aspects of the NSI program, such as mail, specialized applications, data bases, and white and yellow pages.

What does NSI support include?

- Requirements management which includes documentation, tracking, and reporting from initiation through service implementation.
- Real-time, off-line help on network- and service-related questions, and appropriate referral to Network Operations Centers (NOCs) and Network Information Centers (NICs).
- A 24-hour/7-day Network Operations Center (NOC) which monitors network traffic and assures network reliability, performance, and speed.
- User services
 - Network Information Center
 - Conference support
 - Documentation and tutorials
 - User groups
- Security coordination provides an audit-trail of network activity and information on security incidents and intrusions.

For more information

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